

## Message Text

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ACTION COME-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 COA-01 EB-07 AGR-10 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-02

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-15 SCA-01 SCSE-00 DLOS-05

CG-00 DOTE-00 /091 W

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P R 271601Z FEB 75

FM AMEMBASSY PARIS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 7061

INFO AMCONSUL BORDEAUX

AMCONSUL MARSEILLE

AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

UNCLAS PARIS 05110

E.O. 11652:N/A

TAGS:EFIS, FR

SUBJECT:FRENCH EMBARGO OF FISHERY PRODUCTS

REF:STATE 43496

1. GOF HAS SUSPENDED RPT SUSPENDED IMPORT OF ALL FRESH OR FROZEN UNPROCESSED FISH, EFFECTIVE 23 FEBRUARY, FROM ALL NON-EC SOURCES. SHELLFISH; SALT, CANNED OR OTHERWISE PROCESSED FISH NOT INCLUDED.

2. IMPORT SUSPENSION CAME AS RESULT OF WEEK-LONG PROTEST DEMONSTRATIONS BY COASTAL FISHERMEN WHICH INCLUDED PORT BLOCKADES IN NORTH OF FRANCE, AND SEIZURE AND DESTRUCTION OF SEVERAL TRUCKLOADS OF FROZEN FISH BEING IMPORTED BY ROAD. FISHERMEN'S PROTEST FOLLOWED PATTERN OF LAST SUMMER'S FARMERS' PROTEST MOVEMENTS, AND WAS CAUSED BY MANY OF SAME CONDITIONS OF SQUEEZE BETWEEN RISING COSTS AND STABLE MARKET, IN WHICH IMPORTED FISH HIGHLY COMPETITIVE. GOVERNMENT HAS BOUGHT OFF  
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FISHERMEN FOR TIME BEING BY PACKAGE OF MEASURES IN

ADDITION TO IMPORT SUSPENSION, INCLUDING INCREASE IN FUNDS TO SUBSIDIZE DIESEL OIL PURCHASES (INCREASED FROM 12 TO 23 MILLION FRANCS), GRANTING OF 20 MILLION FRANC SECTOR CREDIT FOR COASTAL FISHERIES ORGANIZATIONS, AND LOW-INTEREST LOAN OF 20 MILLION FRANCS TO REGIONAL MARKETING ORGANIZATIONS TO STABILIZE FISH MARKETS. ALTHOUGH NONE OF THESE STEPS WILL SIGNIFICANTLY IMPROVE BASIC PROBLEMS FACED BY COASTAL FISHERMEN, THEY ARE SEEN BY GOF AS NECESSARY TO KEEP INDUSTRY ALIVE, PARTICULARLY IN ECONOMICALLY DISADVANTAGED NORTH COAST AND BRITTANY AREAS.

3. GOF FISHERIES OFFICIALS HAVE DESCRIBED IMPORT SUSPENSION TO US AS "VERY TEMPORARY" IN NATURE; THEY EXPECT THAT IT CAN BE HELD FOR ONLY A FEW WEEKS AGAINST WHAT THEY TERM "VERY STRONG OPPOSITION" OF OTHER EC MEMBERS (WHO PRESUMABLY ARE NOW SUFFERING IMMEDIATE IMPACT OF DIVERTED NORWEGIAN, ICELANDIC OR OTHER SHIPMENTS). MEASURE, OFFICIALS CLAIM, WAS REQUIRED TO STOP DEMONSTRATIONS AND TO AVOID HAVING MORE IMPORT SHIPMENTS DESTROYED; IT WILL BE RELAXED AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

4. TEXT OF MINISTRY OF FOREIGN TRADE NOTICE TO FISH IMPORTERS (JOURNAL OFFICIEL OF 22 FEBRUARY; UNOFFICIAL TRANSLATION) READS: "IMPORTERS OF FRESH (LIVING OR DEAD), REFRIGERATED OR FROZEN SALT-WATER FISH UNDER TARIFF NUMBER 03-01-B ARE INFORMED THAT IMPORTS OF THESE PRODUCTS ARE TO BE SUSPENDED AS OF 23 FEBRUARY 1975 IF ORIGINATING IN A COUNTRY OTHER THAN A MEMBER OF THE EUROPEAN COMMON MARKET."

5. EMBASSY WILL INFORM DEPARTMENT AS SOON AS IMPORT SUSPENSION LIFTED OR MODIFIED. OUR PRELIMINARY ANALYSIS OF FRENCH IMPORT FIGURES INDICATES THAT PRIMARY DIRECT VULNERABILITY FOR US EXPORTERS COULD BE IN FRESH SALMON CATEGORY THOUGH WE UNAWARE OF RANGE POSSIBLE THIRD-COUNTRY ORIGINS OF US-FISHED TUNA.  
RUSH

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** FISH, IMPORT CONTROLS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 27 FEB 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**Disposition Action:** n/a  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** n/a  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:**  
**Disposition Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Disposition Remarks:**  
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**Errors:** N/A  
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**Review Event:**  
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**TAGS:** EFIS, FR, EEC  
**To:** STATE  
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